

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Press Release

For Immediate Release
Friday, August 7, 2009

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Please Note: The plans for resurfacing work on the Downtown Connector this weekend have changed. See revision below. These changes will enable southbound resurfacing to be completed in two weekends rather than three. After next weekend's resurfacing is finished, the I-75 travel lane which closed in September 2008 will reopen, providing motorists with a total of three travel lanes plus the HOV lane. Call if you have any questions.

REVISED

RESURFACING BEGINS THIS WEEKEND ON I-75/ I-85 SOUTHBOUND BETWEEN THE MERGE AND 10TH STREET

ATLANTA – The Georgia Department of Transportation is warning motorists traveling through Atlanta over the next two months to expect weekend delays on the Downtown Connector. Crews will begin this weekend resurfacing the southbound side of the interstate between the I-75/ I-85 merge and 10th Street.

Work will start 9 p.m. Friday, August 7 continuing through 5 a.m. Monday, August 10.

Friday 9 p.m. through Saturday midnight

- The three inside southbound lanes of I-85, including the HOV lane, will be closed starting at the Peachtree Street overpass through 10th street.
- The I-75 southbound HOV lane will be closed just after the Northside Drive overpass through 10th Street.

Saturday midnight through 5 a.m. Monday.

- All I-85 southbound will reopen to traffic
- The I-75 southbound HOV lane will reopen to traffic
- One lane for I-75 southbound will close just after the Northside Drive overpass through 10th Street .

The Department expects to complete resurfacing the southbound section next weekend. Crews are expected to begin resurfacing the northbound section the weekend of August 21st, with all resurfacing to be completed in early November, weather permitting. There will be no closures during Labor Day weekend.

The Downtown Connector resurfacing is part of an ongoing \$88.5 million project to replace the 14th Street Bridge over the Downtown Connector to relieve congestion at the 14th Street interchange. The improved bridge features two new exit ramps from the interstate: southbound to 10th Street, which opened in June, and northbound to 17th Street, expected to open in early 2010. The estimated cost of the project is \$88.5 million.

Georgia DOT urges travelers to call 511 for updated information about this or any other construction project on interstates and state routes. Georgia 511 is a free phone service that provides real-time traffic and travel information statewide, such as traffic conditions, incidents, lane closures, and delays due to inclement weather. Callers also can transfer to operators to request assistance or report incidents 24 hours a day, seven days a week. More information is available at www.511ga.org.

The Georgia Department of Transportation is committed to providing a safe, seamless and sustainable transportation system that supports Georgia's economy and is sensitive to both its citizens and its environment. For general information on the Georgia DOT, please visit our Web site (www.dot.ga.gov).

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